

Date Mailed September 27, 2000
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BEFORE THE  
PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF WISCONSIN

Application of Wisconsin Electric Power Company, as a Gas  
Public Utility, for Authority to Construct Facilities in the  
Village of Walworth and the Town of Walworth, Walworth  
County, Wisconsin

6630-CG-114

**NOTICE OF PROCEEDING, INVESTIGATION,  
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT, AND ASSESSMENT OF COSTS**

**THIS IS A PROCEEDING TO** consider the July 27, 2000, application of Wisconsin Electric Power Company (WEPCO), as a gas public utility, for authority under Wis. Stat. § 196.49 and Wis. Admin. Code ch. PSC 133, to construct natural gas facilities in the village of Walworth and the town of Walworth, Walworth County, Wisconsin.

WEPCO is a public utility as defined in Wis. Stat. § 196.01(5)(a), with its principal office in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin. WEPCO engages in the business of distributing and selling natural gas in areas throughout Wisconsin.

In its application, WEPCO states that an existing 8-inch, 200-psig, steel main located within the right of way of STH 67 from Lake View Drive to North Walworth Road was constructed in 1956 using reclaimed steel pipe. A significant portion of the 8-inch main passes through a commercial section of the village of Fontana. Due to the recent discovery of unrecorded leak clamps on this main, the need to replace existing pressure regulating facilities connected with this main to comply with current code requirements, and the capacity issues associated with this main, WEPCO proposes to install the following:

1. Install approximately 18,480 feet of 10-inch steel, 400-psig supply main.
2. Install two 10-inch valve assemblies.
3. Install one pressure regulation facility.

WEPCO estimates the total gross cost of the proposed project at \$1,040,000. Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 133.03(1)(h), requires that a public gas utility obtain Commission authorization under Wis. Stat. § 196.49(2) for any single gas line project the cost of which exceeds \$600,000.

The proposed facilities will be located in the public road right of way and within easements on private property. The proposed route begins just north of the village of Walworth on STH 67 and proceeds generally west along easement to Town Hall Road and then follows Town Hall Road generally north to the intersection of Willow Bend Road. The route proceeds east along Willow Bend Road to the intersection of STH 67 and then follows STH 67 north to the intersection of North Walworth Road. A portion of the proposed route parallels the existing 8-inch steel main currently operated at 200-psig. The proposed route is shown on the attached map.

When the new 10-inch main and facilities are placed in operation, WEPCO intends to:

1. De-rate the 8-inch main and begin operating this main at 40-psig.
2. Retire five existing pressure regulation facilities.
3. Retire four existing high-pressure (farm tap) service regulators.

WEPCO estimates the cost to remove the facilities it intends to retire at \$10,000. WEPCO states the book value of the facilities it intends to retire is \$8,452.

The Commission intends to consider the application without a hearing.

**NOTICE IS GIVEN** that the Commission considers it necessary, in order to carry out its duties, to investigate all books, accounts, practices, and activities of the applicant. The expenses incurred or to be incurred by the Commission which are reasonably attributable to such an investigation will be assessed against and collected from the applicant in accordance with the provisions of Wis. Stat. § 196.85 and Wis. Admin. Code ch. PSC 5.

This is a Type II action under Wis. Admin. Code § PSC 4.10(3). It consequently requires the preparation of an environmental assessment to determine whether an environmental impact statement is necessary under Wis. Stat. § 1.11. Persons wishing to comment on environmental aspects of the proposed project should contact Michael John Jaeger, Public Service Commission of Wisconsin, P.O. Box 7854, Madison, WI 53707-7854, (608) 267-2546, [jaegem@psc.state.wi.us](mailto:jaegem@psc.state.wi.us). To be considered in this analysis, comments must be received within 14 days of the mailing date of this notice. County and municipal clerks receiving this notice are asked to post it in a publicly accessible location.

The Commission does not discriminate on the basis of disability in the provision of programs, services, or employment. Any person with a disability who needs accommodations to participate in this proceeding or who needs to obtain this document in a different format should contact the case coordinator listed below.

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Questions regarding this matter may be directed to case coordinator Tom Reisdorf at (608) 267-1475.

Dated at Madison, Wisconsin, \_\_\_\_\_

By the Commission:

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Lynda L. Dorr  
Secretary to the Commission

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Attachment